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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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The FDA, along with CDC and state and local partners are investigating four consumer complaints of infant illness related to products from Abbott Nutrition's Sturgis, MI facility received from 9/20/2021 to 1/11/2022. All of the cases are reported to have consumed powdered infant formula (IF) produced from Abbott Nutrition's Sturgis, MI facility. These complaints include three reports of *Cronobacter sakazakii* infections and one report of *Salmonella* Newport infection in infants. All four cases related to these complaints were hospitalized and *Cronobacter* may have contributed to a death in one case.

FDA has initiated an onsite inspection at the facility. Findings to date include several positive *Cronobacter* results from environmental samples taken by FDA, and adverse inspectional observations by FDA investigators. A review of the firm's internal records also indicates environmental contamination with *Cronobacter sakazakii* and the firm's destruction of product due to the presence of *Cronobacter*.

FDA is issuing this advisory to alert consumers to avoid purchasing or using recalled powdered infant formula produced in the Sturgis, MI facility.

On 2/17/2022, Abbott Nutrition initiated a [voluntary recall](#) of certain powdered infant formulas. Products made at the Sturgis facility can be found across the United States and were likely exported to other countries as well. Canadian health officials have also issued a [recall warning External Link Disclaimer](#). FDA is continuing to investigate and will update this advisory should additional consumer safety information become available.

Recommendation

The FDA is advising consumers not to use recalled Similac, Alimentum, or EleCare powdered infant formulas. Recalled products can be identified by the 7 to 9 digit code and expiration date on the bottom of the package (see image below). Products are included in the recall if they have all three items below:

- the first two digits of the code are 22 through 37 and
- the code on the container contains K8, SH, or Z2, and
- the expiration date is 4-1-2022 (APR 2022) or later.

Additional recall information is available on the [FDA website](#).

The recall does not include liquid formula products or any metabolic deficiency nutrition formulas. Consumers should continue to use all product not included in the recall.

Parents and caregivers should never dilute infant formula and [should not make or feed homemade infant formula to infants](#). Consumers should also avoid purchasing imported formula through online sales, as it has the potential to be [counterfeit](#).

If your regular formula is not available, contact your child's healthcare provider for recommendations on changing feeding practices.

More information on *Cronobacter* and infant formula is available on [CDC's website](#).

Recalled powdered infant formulas have the potential to be contaminated with *Cronobacter*, a bacterium that can cause severe foodborne illness primarily in infants. *Cronobacter* infections are rare but are especially high risk for newborn infants (see symptoms below).

Cronobacter bacteria can cause severe, life-threatening infections (sepsis) or meningitis (an inflammation of the membranes that protect the brain and spine). Symptoms of sepsis and meningitis may include poor feeding, irritability, temperature changes, jaundice (yellow skin and whites of the eyes), grunting breaths, and abnormal movements. *Cronobacter* infection may also cause bowel damage and may spread through the blood to other parts of the body.

If your child is experiencing any of these symptoms, you should notify your child's healthcare provider and seek medical care for your child immediately. Healthcare providers and health departments are encouraged to report any confirmed cases of *Cronobacter sakazakii* to CDC.



